

**LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD – WIGGINS LAKE**  
**Held at Sage Township Hall**  
**June 15, 2022**

Meeting called to order by Terry Walters at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Terry Walters

Present: Mike Rajt, Ron Taylor, Terry Walters, Rick Dvorak ~~on the phone~~ and Lucy Zeestraten.

Others in Attendance: Rick Buteyn and Progressive AE. Property owners on Wiggins Lake.

Absent: Renee Zelt

Motion to approve September 15, 2021, minutes by: Terry Walters 2<sup>nd</sup> Ron Taylor.  
All in favor m/c

Correspondence: Map from EGLE on what can be treated.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Elect Chair – Motion to Elect Mike Rajt as chair by Ron Taylor. Seconded by Terry Walters. All in favor m/c

Elect Secretary/Treasurer – Motion to elect Lucy Zeestraten as Secretary/Treasurer by Ron Taylor. Seconded by Terry Walters. All in favor m/c

Motion to approve Administration fee of \$200.00 by Terry Walters. Seconded by Ron Taylor.

Received and file account ledger.

Ron Taylor asked if there were any treatments since May 31? Rick Buteyn stated that they just treated Monday June 12 for algae.

Rick Buteyn gives his report on the lake. Today things on the lake were looking good. The first treatment worked well. There were additional Milfoil areas just south of the launch site. By 31 and 35 some more Milfoil popped up. Popped up next to where the treatment was in May and is typical for this to happen. There was a larger Milfoil bed further for shore by 67-69. The little bays needed attention as well 70-75. The algae are growing well. Its 90 degrees and sunny. Mike asked if he noticed any difference in the amount of the Filications algae down there since we have been using Phoslock. Rick answered there seemed to be less of it, more on the Nipigon side. Not as bad as it was before. Average, below average algae. Mike commented that when we took his boat out, he didn't have to clean the water outlet. Ron Taylor asked with the temperatures dipping down for the weekend and then back up to the 90's the following week. Rick stated that hopefully it will knock down the algae a little bit. Especially if we have some rain. That will help too. Next regular algae treatment is June 27. We can only treat every 2 weeks. Mike stated that we waited and treated at 3 weeks so we could treat just before the 4 of July. Mike asked when we are looking at the next Phoslock treatment? Rick stated the projected dates were and because of the permit we can't use chelated copper products before July so May and June due to the spawning of the fish EGLE and the DNR have cut back. We can't use the Cooper Sulfate like we usually do. Which is the 3<sup>rd</sup> of the price and works twice as good. So, we are going to wait till after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July to treat the algae beds with the Copper Sulfate which attends to work better. Then we will do a 2nd

Phoslock treatment after that algae treatment so the Phoslock can really get on the bottom, otherwise it will just get caught up in the algae. Mike asked if you could explain because originally, we were going to do this in June. Rick stated yes, we were but after further thought efficacy of the treatment would be better in July to get rid of the algae. That's why I propose we do the Phoslock later. Mike states the Copper Sulfate will do a better job with the algae that's growing on the bottom. Which will get it out of the way for the Phoslock. Rick says yup. Jeff Taylor comments that you want to get rid of the algae that's in the water column before you do that. Rick says correct. The Phoslock can strip out that phosphorus and not be inhibited by the algae that's currently growing. Got good news on the pricing, Phoslock projected price for one treatment was around \$26,000.00. Now it will \$7,875.00 for the 25 bags of Phoslock. Mike stated that it was going to be almost \$12,000.00 when it was discussed over the winter. We are still budgeted to the \$25,000.00 but it will cost about \$16,000.00 for the 2 treatments and then we will evaluate and see if we want to go forward. Try it for a 3 years or a couple of treatments because all we are doing is treating the symptom and not the treating cause. We are hoping there is another product coming out. Its Phoslock WC or something. It's a liquid, instead of the granular product like Phoslock. They would have to see if that would be appropriate because that is more for stripping the phosphorus out of the water column where as Phoslock creates a layer in the bottom. Mike asked what Phoslock does for the green stuff that floats at the top of the lake. Rick states not a whole lot. Jeff Taylor asked when it's decided to keep using the Phoslock is its visual inspections or some other method? They do visual inspections their PSO PLM are collecting water samples from the water column itself because if you collect from the sediment is still going to pull the same amount of Phosphorus. We are trying to stop it from releasing. If we are seeing improvement, then we keep going. There was a discussion on where the water sample goes after PLM has retrieved it. Mike asked if they had heard anything about renegotiating rates on our treatment? Rick states PLM thought ahead, and stock piled on products before the prices increased. Rick is expecting PLM to ask 15% to 30% increases on some of their products. Mike asked when our contract with them expires. Rick thinks it's just annual renewal. Rick asked when it was last bided, and Mike stated 2020. Mike states that we need to start thinking about how we are going to deal with that. Mikes understanding that the money we have been spending on weed control has been reduced hugely since 2018. Mike asked Rick if he had a chart that shows what we have spent on weeds. Unfortunately, Rick does not have one with him today. We Will receive one at the end of the year. Ron stated that we might have another year on that contract we better talk to them now because you know what they say. You pay me know or you pay me later. Mike stated that his impression of everybody on the lake are satisfied with the services of PLM then with the other company. We will want to keep them. Jeff Taylor asked Rick that you said you would rather go back to the regular Copper Sulfate like Old Bridge or something like that. Rick states yes. Jeff continues because both Paul and Brea agreed when PLM started the Pit fora algae, Cooper Sulfate won't work it has to chelated. Rick stated the Cooper Sulfate works better then the Chelated Sulfate. Jeff states not with Pita fora. Pita fora to get through that cell wall it has to be chelated. Look it up. Rick states usually they mix the Cooper Sulfate with the Chelated when they are doing the treatment. Jeff stated when Paul started with PLM or when PLM got started, they went purely with C Clear. C Clear is a Copper Sulfate mental hydrate. So, it is a Copper Sulfate. Jeff stated that I will pull some phosphorus out. Is it also chelated? Rick stated no it's a Copper Sulfate mental hydrate. It's a different formulation of Cooper Sulfate. It's made for Pit fora algae. Rick states it works but they did not notice a significate difference and 4 times the price. Mike described what treatments they were doing at that time because Rick was here at the time. They were switching back and forth using C Clear and Cooper Sulfate. Rick asked if they saw significant changes. Rick stated from what he recalls from conversations is the difference wasn't worth the price tag. Mike agreed. Ron asked the stuff you going to use and what you used to use is there a significant price difference? Rick states yes 3 times more expensive. Progressive AE doesn't specify what type of Cooper Sulfate brands they use or choice to mix Chelated Cooper with Cooper Sulfate. Its general practice now. They do mix Cooper Sulfate with Chelated Cooper, but Rick would have to check with Casey and PLM to see what their practices are. Jeff stated that in the reports that are sent to the state it is C Clear. Rick stated that he wasn't sure. Ron stated his understanding is that we are going to do a treatment in July. If it works great, if it doesn't, we have to talk about other options. In July we will get a report from Rick

and if it's not working, we will have to talk about other options. Rick said Paul should be at the next meeting. Ron commented that if something is not working don't keep paying for it. Mike stated that if it works for one guy and doesn't for another. We just have to go with flow.

Motion to adjourn was made by Terry Walters, supported by Ron Taylor.

All in favor, m/c.

Meeting adjourned at 7:22p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Lucy Zeestraten, Secretary